

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 106828
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DRAFTED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE:KA
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EA - MR. HOLBROOKE
S/S - SGOLDSMITH

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R 111418Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106828

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR PORTER FROM HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, VN, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM AND THE UNITED NATIONS

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR CABLE ABOUT VIETNAM. WE HAVE, IN FACT, TAKEN EVERY STEP THAT WE CAN THINK OF TO KEEP OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN ASIA UP TO DATE ON THE COURSE AND STATUS OF OUR VIETNAM TALKS. THEY WERE ALL INFORMED OF OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION BEFORE I ARRIVED IN PARIS, AS WERE KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. I WOULD ADD THAT ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA SEEM TO BE IN FAVOR OF THESE EFFORTS. THEIR MAJOR CONCERN, WHICH WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF ALLAYING, IS THAT WE WILL GIVE VIETNAM AID AT THEIR EXPENSE. SINCE CONGRESS HAS PASSED A LAW THAT MAKES AID IN ANY AMOUNT ILLEGAL, AND SINCE WE DO NOT IN ANY CASE WISH TO BUILD HANOI UP AT THE EXPENSE OF OUR OLD FRIENDS, THIS IS A POINT WHICH I BELIEVE IS ALREADY DIMINISHING IN
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THE MINDS OF OUR ASIAN FRIENDS.

2. AS FOR VIETNAM'S ADMISSION TO THE UN, WE BELIEVE THAT OPPOSING IT WEAKENED US IN MANY OTHER AREAS, WHILE GAINING US NOTHING. WE WERE GOING TO LOSE SUPPORT ON THIS, AND KEEPING VIETNAM OUT WAS NOT HELPING US GET KOREA IN. THE KOREANS THEMSELVES UNDERSTOOD THIS, AND OUR POSITION ON THE

ADMISSION OF KOREA REMAINS UNCHANGED. WARM REGARDS. CHRISTOPHER

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